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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/086,534

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Matthew J. Sherman

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9575

26652

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05/22/2006

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EXAMINER

SALAD, ABDULLAHI ELM I

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2157

DATE MAILED: 05/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/086,534

Applicant(s)

SHERMAN, MATTHEW J.

Examiner

Salad E. Abdullahi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 February 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 10 and 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 4-9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Response

1. The response filed on 2/16/2006 has been received and made of record.
2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-13 have been considered but are not persuasive for the following reason.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 4-9 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

(A) Applicant alleges claim 1 specifies that an obeying station, in addition to updating its NAV, also records a reason why the network allocation vector is updated. Cervello does not teach such limitation

Examiner respectfully disagrees because Cervello in paragraphs 0039, 0041 and also shown in FIG. 5, discloses STA.sub.2,1 (i.e., the obeying station) sets up the NAV with the Duration/ID value in the received CTS frame, and will not interfere with the transmission between STA.sub.2,1 to AP.sub.1 following the RTS/CTS exchange. Examiner asserts by setting NAV by the obeying station it is inherent the reason is recorded. Furthermore, Cervello, discloses if STA.sub.2,1 in the CFP under PCF, this RTS/CTS exchange will not be effective. This is a result of the fact that STA.sub.2,1 will set up its NAV at the beginning of the CFP of BSS.sub.2, and the reception of the CTS will not update the NAV at all.

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Furthermore, Cervello describes in paragraph 0042 when a station will obey or ignore duration value citing two rules "There are two rules regarding the ONAV which are implemented by any of the inventions set forth herein. The first ONAV rule requires that the ONAV is updated with the same rule of the original/existing conventional methods for updating a NAV as set forth in IEEE 802.11 MAC with one exception. The exception is that the ONAV is updated by the frames from neighboring BSSs only, not the frames from its own BSS. The second ONAV rule requires that if a STA has a non-zero ONAV, the STA will not respond to the CF-poll from its AP".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-3 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Cervello et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0071448[hereinafter Cervello].

As per claims 1 and 10, Cervello a method for spoofing stations while transmitting data through a medium, the method comprising:
setting a duration value to a value other than a time period for a predetermined subsequent message transmission (see paragraph 0014);

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and sending a signal containing the duration value during a contention free period, wherein at least one of the stations is an obeying station that updates a network allocation vector in accordance with the duration value, that records a reason why the network allocation vector is updated(see paragraph 0017), and that determines when to ignore a duration value of a subsequent signal sent during the contention free period and when to obey (i.e., not interfere) the duration value of the subsequent signal based upon the reason why the network allocation vector is updated (see paragraph 0039).

As per claims 2-3, and 11-12 Cervello discloses the method of claim 1, further comprising responding to the subsequent signal when the duration value of the subsequent signal is ignored (see paragraph 0017 and 0036).

As per claim13 discloses the method of claim 1, wherein the duration value represents a time period for suppressing transmissions by the obeying station (see paragraph 0036-0037).

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Salad E. Abdullahi whose telephone number is 571-272-4009. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 5:00.If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can

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be reached on 571-272-4001. The **fax phone number** for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300**.

8. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abdullahi salad
5/13/2006


ABDULLAHISALAD
PRIMARY EXAMINER